

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 ACDA-10 /080 W
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P R 041600Z AUG 77
FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8852
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
CINCUSAREUR PRIORITY
DOD PRIORITY
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN

UNCLAS MUNICH 2301

CINCUSAREUR ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, MARR, GW, NATO
SUBJECT: BAVARIAN STATE CHANCERY PRESS RELEASE ON EVANS AND
NOVAK COLUMN

REF: MUNICH 2288

1. ON AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 4, 1977, BAVARIAN STATE CHANCERY ISSUED
PRESS RELEASE DESIGNED TO EASE BAVARIAN POPULATION'S CONCERN
OVER IMPLICATIONS OF EVANS AND NOVAK COLUMN ON DEFENSE OF WESTERN
EUROPE.

2. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF RELEASE: BEGIN QUOTE:
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NEWSPAPER REPORTS WHICH INDICATE THAT THERE ARE CONFIDENTIAL
STUDIES IN WASHINGTON WHICH PERHAPS DEPART FROM THE CONCEPT
OF FORWARD DEFENSE AND WHICH WOULD SURRENDER PARTS OF BAVARIA
FROM THE LECH RIVER WITHOUT STRUGGLE IN THE VENT OF ARMED CONFLICT,
LED MINISTER-PRESIDENT, DR. GOPPEL, TO CALL IN THE US FORCES
LIAISON OFFICER IN BAVARIA AS WELL AS THE (FRG) CHIEF OF STAFF

AND DEPUTY COMMANDER OF MILITARY DISTRICT SIX. THE MINISTER-PRESIDENT CONVEYED (TO THEM) HIS CONCERN ABOUT THESE KINDS OF VIEWS AND THE POSSIBLE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF SUCH REPORTS.

THE MINISTER-PRESIDENT'S CONVERSATION PARTNERS WERE ABLE TO VERIFY THE FACT THAT THE REFERENCED REPORTS DID NOT IN ANY WAY CORRESPOND TO THE REAL (NATO) PLANS, AND THAT THE DEFENSE STRATEGY OF THE NATO FORCES REMAINED UNALTERED.

IN ADDITION, THE ACTING AMERICAN CONSUL GENERAL BROUGHT THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SPOKESMAN'S COMMENT ON THESE REPORTS (TO THE MINISTER-PRESIDENT'S ATTENTION). THE SPOKESMAN STATED INTER-ALIA THAT THE IDEA THAT IT WOULD BE AMERICAN POLICY TO ACCCEPT SOVIET OCCUPATION OF NATO TERRITORY IS FLATLY WRONG. HE AND A SPOKESMAN FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT EMPHASIZED THAT THE CONCEPT OF FORWARD DEFENSE FOR ALL OF WESTERN EUROPE IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF AMERICAN POLICY.

IN A RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE MINISTER-PRESIDENT, BOT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE CONFIRMED THE FOREGOING. END QUOTE.

GILMORE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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